

*Brainerd
H. S. V.
Spencer
Hikes in the
Chancellor* *Heald*
by B. S. H.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Administration of the affairs of New York University entails an inspiring responsibility such as no other educational institution in this country imposes upon its leadership. I refer now not only to the academic and business leadership of our various schools, but to the custodianship and maintenance of the Hall of Fame for Great Americans, at which we are gathered today to dedicate permanent bronzes in commemoration of two singularly illustrious Americans -- Susan B. Anthony and Thomas Paine.

Other speakers will pay fitting tributes to these two great Americans during the exercises which are to follow. I merely want to express - on behalf of the University - our deep appreciation of the responsibility and trust that devolved upon us when the late Helen Gould, more than half a century ago, provided the necessary funds to give concrete expression to this magnificent concept of one of my predecessors, Chancellor MacCracken.

Here, overlooking the metropolis, stands this beautiful Colonnade, designed by Stanford White, one of America's foremost architects of the 19th century, sheltering bronzes of 78 Americans of outstanding achievement - famous in the truest sense of the term. We are about to increase to 80 this galaxy of permanent memorials to men and women who have played major roles in the progress of this country toward its present position of eminence in the family of nations.

Here thousands come from one year's end to the other, to view these splendid works of art, fashioned by America's finest sculptors, and pay homage to the great Americans they portray. Throughout the length and breadth of the land millions have been inspired with the true spirit of

democracy exemplified by the lives and achievements of these noted men and women.

Proud as we are of the custodianship of this American Valhalla, we strive to maintain it not as an institutional adjunct but as a national trust, in the spirit of its founder and sponsor. That this trusteeship has been vindicated is evidenced by the numerous bronzes in the Colonnade - all made possible by voluntary contributions from the public - and by the wide recognition and repute the Hall of Fame has been accorded.

It has truly become a national institution, and New York University shall continue to bend every effort toward maintaining it as such. It serves as a source of patriotic inspiration to the old and young alike, a constant reminder of the achievements of those honored and an eloquent sermon in stone and bronze on the progress of democracy, and the opportunities that the American way of life offers to the individual. It is well to remember that many of the men and women in the Hall of Fame rose to distinction from very humble origins.

And now I wish to welcome to the University and to the Hall of Fame our many guests from near and far. We have on the platform official representatives from Cuba, France, India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Pakistan, Spain and Yugoslavia, as well as representatives from our own Government. Also with us, on the platform, are some members of the College of Electors of the Hall of Fame, outstanding in their respective fields and who serve ably and conscientiously, at great personal sacrifice without monetary compensation, and I am especially happy to welcome them. In the audience, I am informed, are representatives from universities and other educational institutions, noted physicians and scientists, jurists, and distinguished men and women in other fields, including many members of our faculty. To all of you, I again say welcome.

And now, I am turning over the proceedings to Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, who, as Director of the Hall of Fame, will preside. Dr. Sockman: